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Star Ferry Meeting—Back Page

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THE FAMOUS COMFORT
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CHINA



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FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1958.

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**COMMENT OF
THE DAY**

**HK BREAKING
ALL RECORDS**

THE Colony, like the Australian "Wonder Kids", is breaking all records and a mere glance at the Financial Secretary's draft estimates of revenue and expenditure for 1958/59 will show just how many there are.

Mr. Clarke is also confident that further record marks will be set during the coming fiscal year. The estimated figure for expenditure of \$641½ million is an all-time high and although he has budgeted for a deficit once again—\$87½ million—he does not contemplate that it will be realised.

Last year the Financial Secretary budgeted for a deficit of \$64.4 million but he visualises at the moment that there will be a surplus of over \$50 million at the final accounting.

Happy Position

AND even if there is a deficit in 1958/59 it could be financed out of the Colony's large reserves. This is indeed a very happy position and other colonies will look towards Hongkong with envy while we take pride in the achievement.

Comfort, too, can be taken from the fact that this record-setting expenditure can be contemplated without the Government having to seek additional revenue by increasing taxation. In fact, Mr. Clarke is of the opinion that he can reduce the business registration fee.

Huge Outlay

THE public might have been justified in seeking some form of tax relief, but we are committed to a huge outlay of capital expenditure on projects which are vital to the community as a whole. These include education, health, resettlement and public services and it is necessary to follow the carefully laid plans of our former Governor.

The Financial Secretary dwelt at length on the subject of the water shortage. It had been generally thought a few years ago that the Tai Lam Chung scheme would solve most of the problems. This idea was amended later and prospecting for a new site for storage began on Lantau.

Gloomy Picture

NOW Mr. Clarke paints a very gloomy picture as even if Shek Pik is suitable demand will be still greater than supply and there is little likelihood that it will ever meet, with the result that, apart from personal inconvenience, industry will be retarded.

Unfortunately money will not provide the answer. "New schemes can be financed out of the reserves. It is a question of storage sites and according to the former Director of Public Works they do not exist on a scale to meet requirements, but the Government can be relied upon to do its best to relieve the position.

US REJECTS RUSSIAN PROPOSAL

Wants Problems Of 1955 Summit Meet Discussed

Washington, Mar. 6.

The United States today rejected the procedure proposed by the Soviet Union for convening a Foreign Ministers' conference.

A Foreign Ministers' meeting which was convened in the manner proposed by Soviet Foreign Minister, Andre Gromyko, would not succeed in reducing international tension, the United States said.

The American reply, issued in the form of a memorandum delivered to the Soviet Embassy today, did not insist on a Foreign Ministers' conference as a prelude to summit talks.

The United States suggested the use of normal diplomatic channels as supplementary to, or as an alternative to a Foreign Ministers' meeting.

Insists

The United States insisted that a new summit conference must take into account the results achieved at the summit talks in Geneva in 1955.

That conference had dealt primarily with Germany and European security, disarmament and extension of East-West contacts.

In this connection, the US reply said the Soviet memorandum of February 29 rejected discussion of German reunification in a new summit conference.

The United States could not accept the exercise of a veto right in the summit talks, the note said.

The United States said a new summit conference should concentrate more effectively on the essential problems than was the case at the previous summit talks.

All Means

It is not necessary for all East-West problems to be taken up on bloc, the US note said.

The American note said the United States was pleased that the Soviet Union had expressed its intention to use all necessary means, including a Foreign Ministers' conference, in order to reach agreement on holding talks at the summit.

Nevertheless, the US reply said the preparation for a summit conference envisaged by the Soviet Government does not meet the conditions required to ensure that the summit talks really help to reduce international tension.

The United States said the summit agenda "should not necessarily be limited to matters the solution of which now seems assured."

At the same time, the US memorandum noted that a possibility of agreement "as to any matters of significance" proposed by either side did not emerge from the ample correspondence thus far exchanged between Soviet Premier, Nikolai Bulganin, and American President, Eisenhower.

The US believes a new summit conference should not ignore the 1955 summit conference

US CREDIT CONDITIONS RELAXED

Washington, Mar. 6. The Federal Reserve Board today authorized three of its banks to lower their discount rates one-half per cent to 2½ per cent tomorrow in another step "to make credit conditions still more favourable to recovery."

It was the third reduction since November in the interest rate Federal Reserve banks charged their member banks.

A Federal Reserve spokesman said the action was designed to bring the discount rate "into alignment with market rates and make credit conditions still more favourable to recovery."

The new reduction will be made at the New York, Philadelphia, and Chicago Federal Reserve banks. The Federal Reserve discount rate has been at 3½ per cent since last January.

The San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank still is using the 3 per cent discount rate.

The reduction by the three banks is expected to be followed by similar cuts in the other Federal Reserve banks. — United Press.

Labour Manifesto Calls For Summit Talks

By JOSEPH W. GRIGG

London, Mar. 6.

Britain's Labour Opposition and trade unions piled pressure on the Government tonight for summit talks with Russia and urged that Britain should give an "example" by suspending H-bomb tests immediately.

They did so in a joint manifesto released soon after Prime Minister Harold Macmillan told Parliament he also wants a summit meeting, but only "in circumstances likely to lead to at least partial success."

But Macmillan rejected any one-sided action on the H-bomb with the argument that it would be "bad diplomacy and bad psychology."

The joint disarmament manifesto of the Labour Party and Trades Union Congress was published following a meeting of leaders of both organisations to define their official stand on these issues.

In a seven-point programme they called for:

★ A "serious effort" by the British Government to bring about summit talks in the near future.

★ Immediate suspension of thermo-nuclear tests by

Britain for a limited period as an "example to the world."

★ Action by the British Government to obtain a general agreement to end all nuclear and thermo-nuclear tests, distinct from any wider disarmament agreement.

Disarmament

★ Agreement "within a reasonable period" leading to real progress on the basic problem of disarmament.

★ A declaration banning use of all nuclear weapons as part of a general disarmament agreement.

★ Immediately halting plans for H-bombs.

★ Delay in setting up American rocket bases in Britain until after a summit conference.

The Labour Party and Trade Union leaders put out the programme in an obvious effort to quell growing left-wing demands in this country for unilateral renunciation of the H-bomb by Britain. — United Press.

Fire Victims

Karachi, Mar. 6. So far 20 bodies have been found in the debris of the Bori Bazaar market in Karachi, swept by fire last night. Many more people are reported missing and it was feared here that the death toll would be higher. Rescue and search operations are continuing. — France-Press.

PRINCESS MARGARET'S RESIDENCE INVADIED

London, Mar. 6.

An unidentified man plunged through the front door of Princess Margaret's Royal residence today and got as far as the roof shouting for her before police seized him.

It happened at Clarence House, the dignified residence of Princess Margaret and her mother, Queen Elizabeth. Princess Margaret was home at the time.

The intruder attacked one policeman outside the door where Clarence House opens onto a courtyard leading to the Mall and to Buckingham Palace. The policeman, Constable Edward Fry, ran to the door and rang the doorbell for help.

DASHED IN

When another policeman opened it, the man dashed in. He ran up the steps shouting and made it all the way to the roof of the three-storey structure.

One thing he shouted while he was on the roof was "Down with the Tories."

Police reinforcements cornered the man on the roof and overpowered him. He was taken to a hospital and held for mental examination. — United Press.

Successful

Littleton, Col., Mar. 6. The Martin Company said it successfully completed the first in a series of test firings of its Titan intercontinental ballistic missile's Aero-jet engine. — United Press.

UK & FRANCE TO URGE U.S. TO SOFTEN APPROACH

By ARNOLD DIBBLE

Manila, Mar. 7.

Britain and France will urge the United States to soften its approach to the proposed summit conference with Russia in meetings here next week, it was learned today.

Discipline In British Army To Be Reviewed

London, Mar. 6.

Discipline in the British Army is to be reviewed by a committee of serving Army officers with recent regimental experience, the Secretary of War, Mr. Christopher Soames, said today.

He told the House of Commons the committee would review the Army's methods of discipline, management and instruction "from the point of view of their effect on the soldier as an individual. This was being done because the Army was moving towards an all-regular force. (Conscription is to end in 1962.)"

"Wherever departures from existing practice, however longstanding it might be, are shown to be desirable, it will be put into effect, he added.

WITHDRAWAL

Chairman of the committee is General Sir Lawrence Whistler. He retired at the beginning of last year after 40 years in the Army, the last three as General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Command.

In 1955 he ordered the withdrawal of walking-out passes for servicemen found wearing Edwardian, or "teddy-boy," clothing. Mr. Soames also said troop trials, of different types of uniforms to replace the present battle-dress would be made in certain chosen units.

The Commons were discussing Army finances for the coming year. — China Mail Special.

Submarines To Explore Arctic Basin

Washington, Mar. 6.

Three United States submarines, two of them nuclear-powered, will explore the Arctic basin this summer, the Navy announced here today.

The atom-submarine Nautilus, which penetrated under the North Pole ice-cap to within 100 miles of the North Pole last summer, will be accompanied this summer by the nuclear submarine Skate and the conventionally-powered submarine Halfback.

Last year, the Nautilus remained for 5½ days under the ice-cap and conducted soundings during its under-ice cruise from the North Atlantic into the Arctic Ocean.

Navy officials have stated they would like to see a submarine cross the Arctic Ocean from end to end, though most of the voyage would be beneath ice. — Reuters.

ITALIAN DEPUTIES SCUFFLE

Rome, Mar. 6.

Roman Catholic and Communist deputies scuffled on the floor of the Chamber of Deputies tonight over Red charges of church interference in the forthcoming general elections.

First-shaking, deputies, inflamed by the controversial election of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Prato by an Italian Court on defamation charges, yelled insults and tried to hit each other across a cordon of peace-making Chamber clerks.

It was a quarter of an hour before Chamber President Giovanni Leone could restore order, allowing a Cabinet Minister to resume an interrupted speech.

The outburst was the first incident in Parliament since the bishop's conviction last Saturday sparked the worst state-church crisis in Italy in 30 years. — United Press.

Defence Vote

London, Mar. 6.

The House of Lords tonight rejected Labour Opposition objections to Britain's defence policy by a vote of 94 to 23.

The Lords' debate followed an earlier debate in the House of Commons. The defeat of the Opposition was followed by a vote approving a motion expressing confidence in Government policy. — United Press.

Sandys May Visit Moscow

London, Mar. 6.

Mr. Duncan Sandys, British Defence Minister, has accepted "in principle" a Russian invitation to visit Moscow, but no date has been fixed, the British news agency, the Press Association, said tonight. The Daily Herald political correspondent, Hugh Fletcher, said in Friday's paper: "I can disclose one of the Government's most closely guarded secrets: the Defence Minister is to visit Moscow in May."

COVER UP

"That fact lies behind all the current mystification about summit talks, and the strained relations with America which ministers have been doing their best to cover up."

The Daily Herald went on: "It is a direct pointer to the probability that Britain, guided by Mr. Macmillan, is likely to 'go it alone' in summit talks in spite of the objections announced by Mr. Dulles, US Secretary of State. 'Now it has been arranged—with Mr. Malik, Soviet Ambassador in London as intermediary—that Mr. Sandys shall go to Russia to discuss a basis on which Anglo-Russian talks can take place."

THE AGENDA

"On the agenda of Mr. Sandys' meetings in the Kremlin will be:

★ Frank exchanges about the prospects for disarmament, both nuclear and conventional;

★ A renewed possibility of bargaining over establishment of rocket sites in this country;

★ The long-term future of Germany.

"One reason why no announcement has yet been made is that the Russians are currently more anxious for such exploratory talks than is the West." — Reuters.



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In Your Saturday Mail

Features in tomorrow's Weekend China Mail include:

- ★ THE LAST DAYS OF SHANGHAI—by John Luff;
- ★ MASTER SPY—by Leonard Mosley;
- ★ FROM RAGS TO RICHES—by John Cottrell;
- ★ REVOLUTION IN ST JAMES—by Ivan Yates;
- ★ BUSINESS OF WAR—by Major-General Sir John Kennedy; COMMENTARY—by Frank Owen;

And all your favourite cartoons, features, strips, and puzzles in 20 pages packed for your weekend reading.

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"and God
created
woman"

but
the
devil
invented



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in CINEMASCOPE and EASTMANCOLOR with CURT JURGENS
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Please note special times:

AT 2.30, 6.00 & 9.00 P.M.

The Town—The People—Everyone's Talking About!



Starring:
Lana TURNER Hope LANGE Leo PHILIPS Lloyd NOLAN
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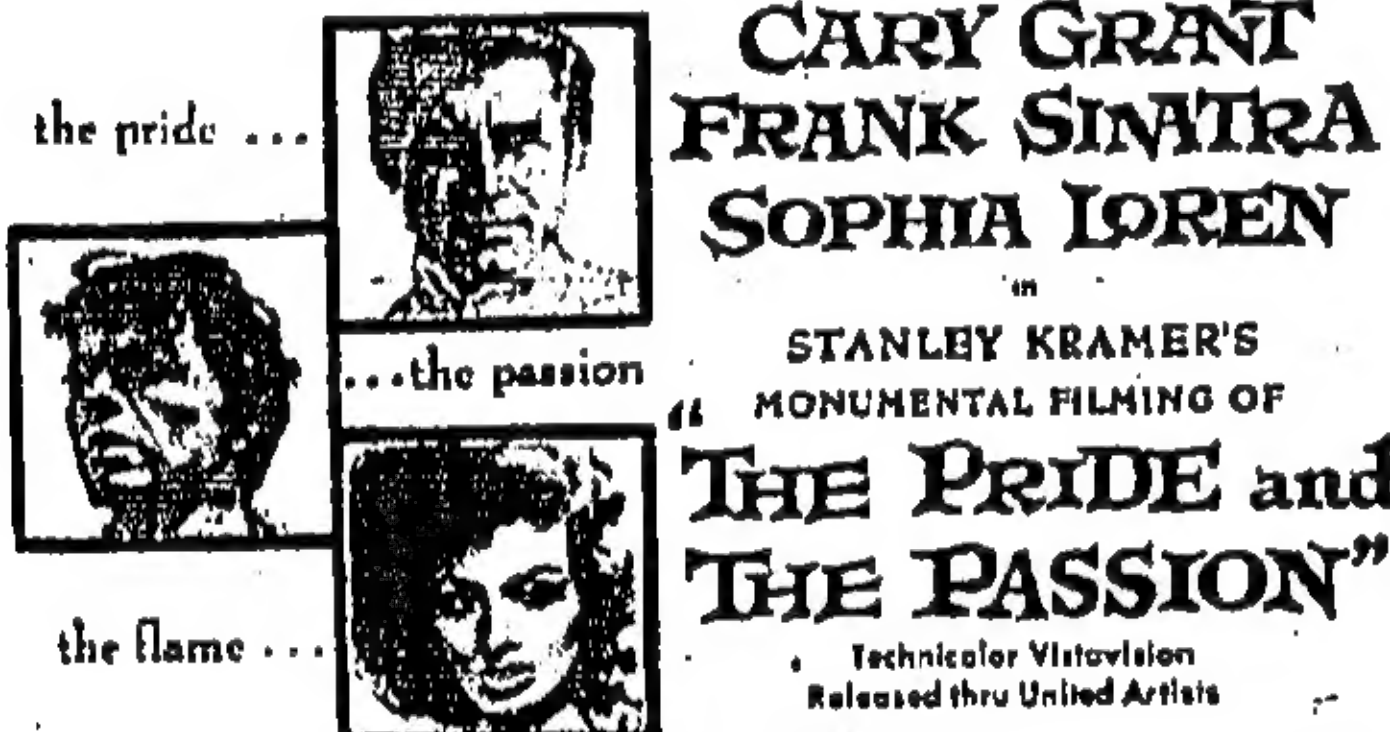
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SOPHIA LOREN**

STANLEY KRAMER'S MONUMENTAL FILMING OF

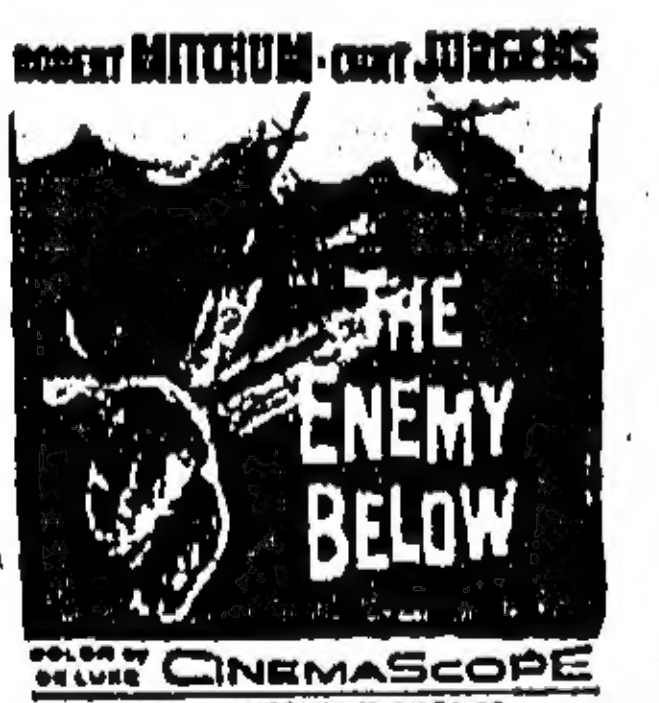
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THE PASSION"**

Technical Colorization Released thru United Artists

ORIENTAL MAJESTIC

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FINAL SHOWING
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
The Men... the Chase... the Duel... that Tore the Ocean Apart!

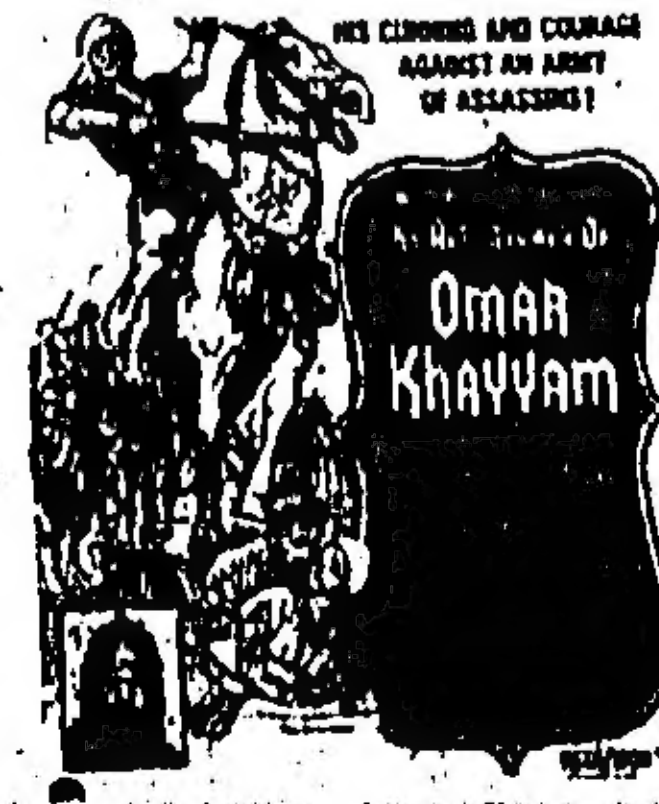


Commencing To-morrow
"TIP ON A DEAD JOCKEY"

SHOWING TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.
DESTROYED CAPTAIN and
SUB COMMANDER... track
other across 1000 miles of ex-
ploding seas!

**CAPITOL RITZ**

SHOWING TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



To-morrow Morning Show
At 12.30 p.m.
John HARRYMORE Jr. in
"WHILE THE CITY SLEEPS"

FINAL TO-DAY
At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.



TO-MORROW
CLARK GABLE in
"BAND OF ANGELS"
In WarnerColor

EXPLORER II BURNED UP**Driver Sagan Buys TWO****This Time**

Modena, Mar. 6.
FRENCH novelist, Françoise Sagan, today bought two Ferrari racing cars after trying them out on the Modena race track.

Miss Sagan, author of the sexy best seller "Bonjour Tristesse", and the ballet "Rendezvous Manque," arrived in Milan today with her brother Jacques Quirez.



Françoise

After trying out herself two of Ferrari's latest models—a 2,000 and a 3,000 c.c.—she was so excited by the power and performance of the two cars that she bought them on the spot.—France-Presse.

Cuban Rebels Battle Fiercely With Backs To Mountains

Havana, Mar. 6.

A strong rebel force was reported tonight to be fighting with its back against the slope of the Sierra Maestra Mountains to avoid being trapped by government forces, after successful lightning attacks on at least three government positions in Oriente Province.

Dispatches from at least three cities in that province—Sancti Spiritus, Bayamo and Manzanillo—agreed that the rebels were fighting fiercely to get back to their mountain-top hideouts after surprise raids against rural guard outposts.

Their escape was blocked by constant Army pressure backed by heavy air support. There were no definite casualty reports so far, but it was known that at least seven had been killed and more than a score wounded in actions fought during the past 24 hours.

Frontal Attack

At least 100 followers of the rebel leader, Fidel Castro, took part in the day's principal action—a frontal attack on a rural guard outpost near the Estrada Palma sugar mill outside Manzanillo.

Late dispatches indicated that first reports that the rebels had overwhelmed the garrison there were inaccurate—they said the garrison force had resisted the surprise pre-dawn attack.

It was reported, however, that one Army reinforcement patrol, accompanied by assault cars, was ambushed and "decimated" by the rebels.

In Manzanillo, the Army took over the local hospital and barred access to the general public after bringing its casualties there.

The reports said the rebels timed their attack on Estrada Palma with an assault on the Army guard post at Vega, between Bayamo and Yara, which they crushed.

Abandoned

Army reinforcements were rushed to Estrada Palma from Bayamo at first news of the rebel attack. Bayamo, which is patrolled normally by a small Army jeep unit, was described as an "abandoned city" as its garrison troops rushed to aid their beleaguered Estrada Palma comrades.

Reports from the Vega area said rebels "picked up" armed youths who were waiting in the vicinity to join the rebel ranks.

Just before daybreak, Army fighters and medium bombers began taking off from an improvised airfield north of Bayamo, to give air support to the ground counter-attack. It was reported that the air force located the principal rebel stronghold in a mountain peak named Cerro Pelado (Bald Hill) which was strafed by the fighters and bombed by B-26 medium bombers.—United Press.

Can't Afford It

Karachi, Mar. 6.
Malik Feroz Khan Noon, the Pakistani Prime Minister, told the National Assembly here today that neither he nor any other member of the Baghdad Pact had said for months, as reported in an open or secret session of the Baghdad Pact. Speaking in a foreign affairs debate he said: "We do not want to enter a field which we cannot afford."—Reuters.

—OFFICIAL

**Last Stage Failed
To Ignite,
Scientists Decide**

Cape Canaveral, Mar. 6.

The second Explorer satellite failed to orbit and probably burned up 1,900 miles from its launching point because the fourth stage of its Jupiter-C rocket did not ignite, it was announced late today.

Failure of the Explorer II was confirmed as the Navy's long-delayed Vanguard launcher moved on stage here for the next satellite attempt, expected by the end of the week. There was a bustle of activity tonight around the Navy's service tower on Cape Canaveral.

A statement released by the Air Force Missile Test Centre here and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, told of the Explorer II's fate.

"Yesterday's firing of the second Jupiter-C satellite vehicle did not place the International Geophysical Year satellite in orbit, the statement said.

It was signed by Maj.-Gen. John B. Medaris, head of the Army Ballistic Missile Agency; Dr. William Pickering, head of the Jet Propulsion Lab; and Dr. Jack E. Froelich, Deputy Chief of JPL.

"All available data collected at the time of firing has been given a complete preliminary examination and all other possibilities have been ruled out," the Army said.

"It is now certain that orbit was not achieved, due to the fact that the last high-speed stage (of the Jupiter-C) did not ignite.

The scientists said reason for the failure of the automatic ignition system to touch off the last solid fuel stage of the big launching vehicle "is not known, and will probably be very difficult to determine." But the statement said all the other three stages "functioned perfectly."

"Lacking additional velocity, which would have been contributed by the last stage, the satellite behaved like an ordinary surface-to-surface missile, and since it was not protected against re-entry heat conditions, probably burned up upon re-entering the atmosphere at a range of approximately 1,900 miles."—United Press.

Allegation Of Copying

Rome, Mar. 6.

At a meeting of the National Committee for the co-ordination of pottery problems here, complaints were raised of alleged acts of design copying by Japanese manufacturers to the detriment of Italian artistic pottery.

The committee examined the possibilities of applying remedies to end the repetition of this copying.

The complaint was one of the problems discussed at the meeting which was called to discuss the problems arising out of the coming into being of the European Common Market.—Reuters.

Work Begins On New Satellite

Washington, Mar. 6.

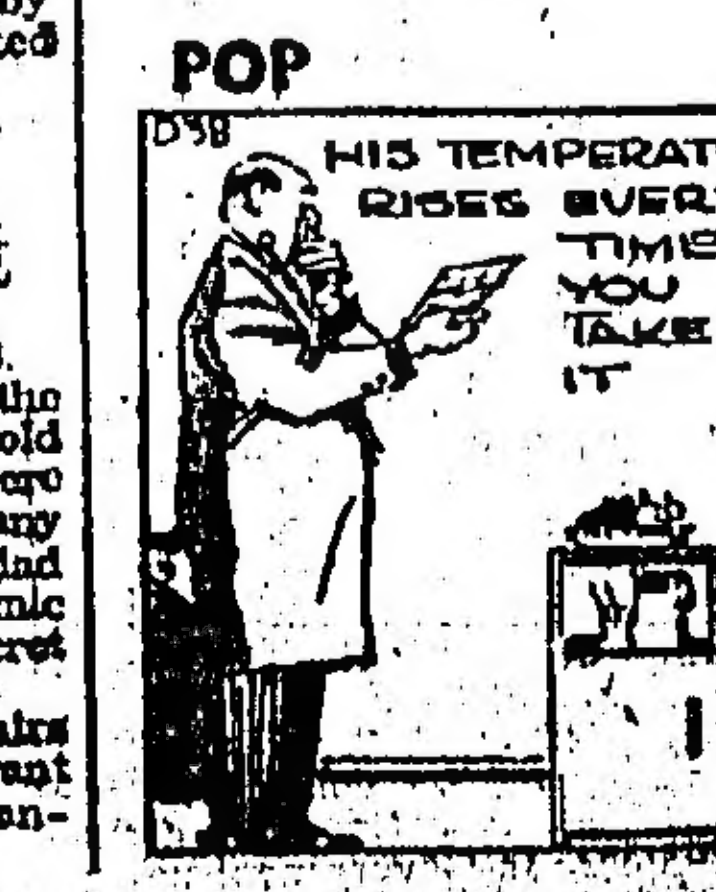
The Army disclosed tonight that it had begun to assemble a new satellite to be called Explorer III. It did not say when a launching attempt would be made.

Elsewhere it was learned that Explorer III would be the first of five new satellites the Army plans to try to put in orbit around the earth.

Explorer III will carry out International Geophysical Year experiments. Whether the four additional Army satellites will do scientific or military work was not disclosed.

Maj.-General Harry Storke, Army Chief of Information, revealed that the new satellite was being built during a news conference at which he gave additional details on the failure of Explorer II yesterday.

He did not discuss the four additional satellites, on which details were obtained from other sources.—United Press.



POP

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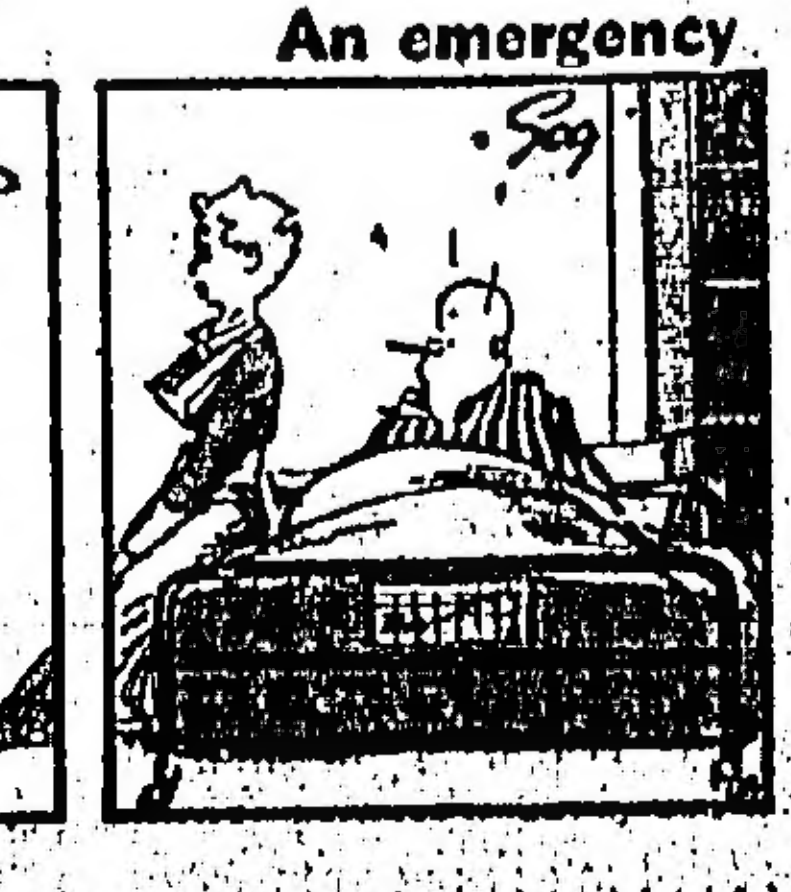
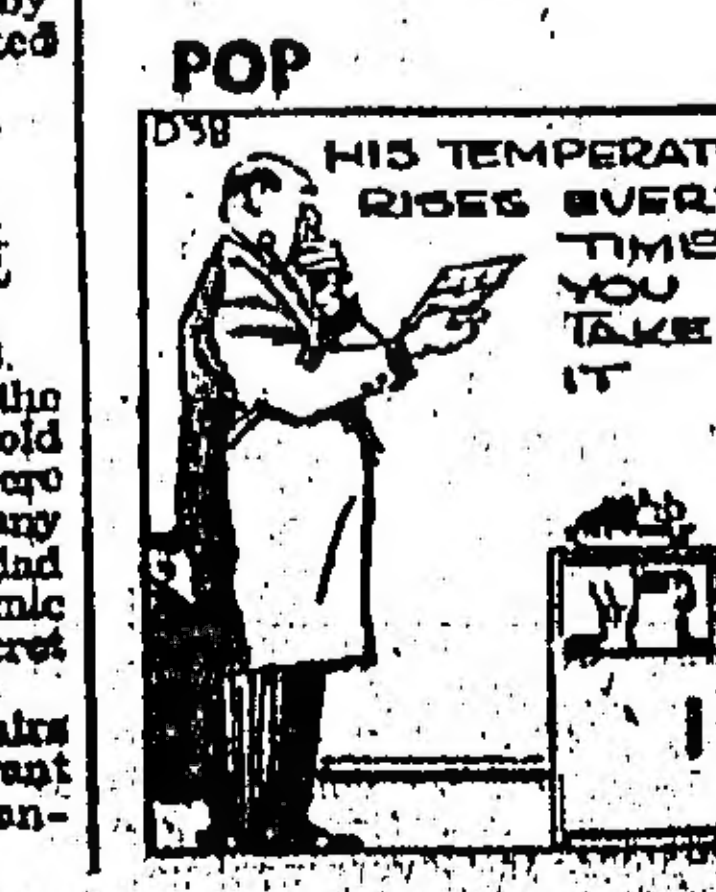
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The GIANT Full-length color cartoon Feature!



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PRECIOUS
DROPS
FOR
PRECIOUS
MOMENTS.
CHERRY
HEERING

CABLE BRIEFS

London, Mar. 6. London's biggest mobile crane, another crane, five operators and two electricians yesterday removed Mrs. Raymond Morgan's old kitchen stove and installed a new one in her third floor apartment. Her husband, an engineer, explained he called on the derelict people to handle the stove job because "The stairs are narrow and I didn't want the paint scratched."—United Press.

Tottori, Mar. 6. Plagued by sparrows which defecated all attempts to capture them, Japanese farmers here scattered alcohol-soaked grain, watched the pests gobble it down, and then leisurely picked up the high-as-a-kite birds, too drunk to fly.—United Press.

Muskegon, Mar. 6. James R. Kilbane slipped for action to settle a traffic dispute, much to his regret. Kilbane told police he took off his jacket and tossed it into the trunk of a car that had bumped his parked car. But before any battle started the other motorist drove off—jacket and all.—United Press.

Krefeld, Mar. 6. Huts made by a German firm here look their funniest at night. The headgear has phosphorescent bands designed to reflect automobile lights.—United Press.

Indianapolis, Mar. 6. James Ingram summoned police when he found a thief had jacked up his car in front of his house and stolen the two front tyres, wheels and hubcaps. Ingram is an F.B.I. agent.—United Press.

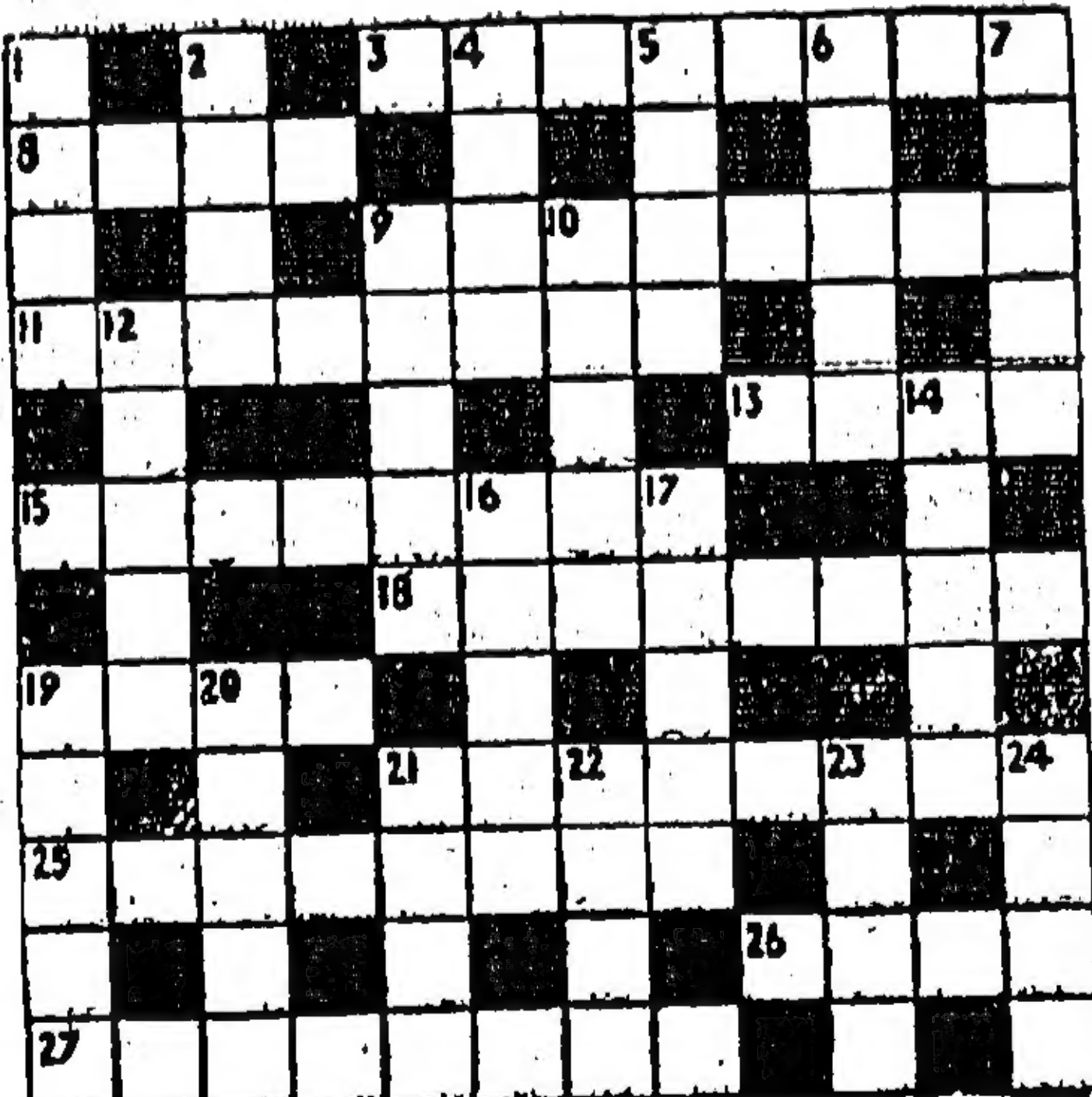
Grand Rapids, Mar. 6. Kent County Sheriff Arnold Pligorski has rejected the request of a group of girls who wanted to hold a slumber party in the new jail before it opened. "They wanted to be locked up for one night," the sheriff said, "but there'll be enough slumber parties there in future years."—United Press.

Chicago, Mar. 6. Chicago aldermen are complaining that the press box in their new Council Chamber makes them feel a bit uncomfortable. It looks, several said, too much like a jury box.—United Press.

Tokyo, Mar. 6. One of the biggest complaints of foreigners here in the Japanese bureaucracy. But government office is going out of its way to make things easier for foreigners—the Income Tax Bureau is sending out its forms in English.—United Press.

Monroe, Mar. 6. A non-winner in a quick-draw shoot-from-the-hip contest here was a police sergeant named Lawless Dore.—United Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 3 Weather prediction? (8).
- 8 American female? (4).
- 9 Transport time-table? (8).
- 11 An age? (8).
- 13 Plants complete collections? (8).
- 15 Rule out of order? (8).
- 16 Of some education? (8).
- 18 This rock grows? (4).
- 21 Tending to sleep? (8).
- 23 Valued? (8).
- 25 Before long we see a bashful author? (4).
- 27 On the other side? (8).

DOWN

- 1 A fair in foot? (4).
- 2 Indication of bad luck? (4).
- 4 Not repeated? (4).
- 6 One less than seven is? (4).
- 7 Poet's favourite blue? (5).
- 9 Peace working? (5).
- 10 Though only a slave, he gets the lot? (5).
- 12 Whiskey? (8).
- 14 Peasantry? (5).
- 16 Leo and Co? (8).
- 17 Countryside in Kent, maybe? (5).
- 19 Old military headwear? (5).
- 20 His tales were fabulous? (5).
- 22 Oxford's river? (4).
- 24 Red money? (4).
- 26 Days of wonder? (4).
- 28 Great dog? (4).

THURSDAY'S SOLUTION—Across: 1 Number, 4 Puffs, 7 Mutilate, 8 Polo, 9 Sierra, 11 Chiffon, 13 Arbutus, 15 Asken, 16 Actor, 18 Emmit, 20 Shred, 21 Memory, Down: 1 Mahoe, 2 Beel, 3 Rep-lace, 4 Prewie, 5 Full time, 6 Strong, 10 Brakiller, 12 Uranium, 13 Arab-ia, 14 Thread, 16 Therm, 17 Ready.

"THEY ARE LIARS AND SWINDLERS!"

Challenge Flung At Soekarno

Sabrina Tangles With A Leopard



THIS is the story of Chico, a leopard with a liking for blondes, especially blondes like Sabrina. However, Chico showed his taste in too hearty a way—not only did he bow her over with affection, but tried to take a bite out of a shapely calf to boot. It happened at London Airport recently when Sabrina was leaving for America. Chico, a gift from a friend, eventually said his farewells from a distance.—Reuterphoto.

FARMERS FOR CHINA

Paris, Mar. 6. The South China Agricultural College will enrol 200 cooperative farmers this year in accordance with a directive of the Kwantung Provincial Committee of the Communist Party, the New China news agency reported tonight.

These students will be selected by the Agricultural Co-operatives. The requirements are a rudimentary school education and three years work on the farms. The period of training is temporarily fixed at five and a half years, including a period of higher middle school training, the agency said.—France-Press.

Rebels Pledge A Battle To The End

Singapore, Mar. 6. The Premier of the rebel Indonesian Government, Dr Sjafruddin Prawiranegara, in a fight-to-the-finish speech tonight, called President Soekarno and his ministers "liars and swindlers" and challenged them to attack the revolutionary government, Padang radio reported.

He said his government was determined to fight the Soekarno government "by all the means at our disposal until victory is achieved".

In a speech made at a mass rally at Batu Sangkar, east-central Sumatra, and broadcast by Padang radio, the Premier of the rebel government accused Indonesian Premier, Djundjund, and his Cabinet colleagues of "unashamedly sticking to the government like leeches, and seeking to destroy the country's constitution."

Sjafruddin ridiculed the orders of arrest issued against him and Colonel Achmed Hussein, Central Sumatra commander, by recalling that the Dutch, with far superior forces, had been unable to arrest them in 1948.

"They Don't Dare"

The rebel premier said the Central Government would not dare to attack Sumatra because it knew "the whole country would rise against them".

Denying reports that families of revolutionary leaders had fled to Singapore, he pointed out his wife, and the wife of Colonel Achmed Hussein, sitting behind them on the platform.

Meanwhile, South Sumatra tonight called on President Soekarno and former Vice President Mohammad Hatta to use all their "energy, prestige and wisdom" to avoid violence.

Radio Palembang, the voice of the new "uncommitted" area, broadcast an appeal to the two leaders on the eve of their third meeting since the current crisis began with the proclamation of a revolutionary government in Central Sumatra.

The radio broadcast said that civil, political and military leaders of South Sumatra had drafted the appeal during a three-and-one-half-hour meeting.

"The population of South Sumatra and Djambi," the broadcast said, "motivated by a sincere feeling of love of the state and the nation, call on Bung (brother) Soekarno and Bung Hatta to use all their energy, prestige and wisdom to settle the current internal conflict and try to avoid violence so long as the door is still open to a peaceful solution."

The appeal was read by A. K. Gunt, Chairman of South Sumatra's Nationalist Party.—United Press and France-Press.

PLAN TO WIPE OUT CHINA'S ILLITERACY

Paris, Mar. 6. A proposal to wipe out illiteracy in China in five years was made by representatives from 18 provinces and cities at the closing session of a one-week conference here today, the New China news agency reported.

Representing counties and districts, factories, mines, agricultural co-operatives and handicraft co-operatives and cities which have already wiped out illiteracy, they said that in some places this goal could be achieved in two to three years.

The conference, called by the Ministry of Education, the Young Communist League, the All-China Federation of Trade Unions and Women's Federation, was to pool experience for a nationwide drive to end illiteracy.—France-Press.

"OPERATION HARDTACK"

US Prepares For New Series Of Nuclear Tests

Washington, Mar. 6. The Defence Department today gave the name "Operation Hardtack" to the nuclear tests which will start in the Pacific next month.

The tests, expected to include further measures for reducing radioactive fallout from hydrogen bombs, will be commanded by Air Force Maj.-Gen. Alvin R. Lucadelle.

The tests, it was speculated, may include an effort to explode nuclear devices above the atmosphere.

The Atomic Energy Commission is working on nuclear warheads for use in defence against intercontinental ballistic missiles, and the new tests are expected to further that effort.

Meanwhile, the United States has told Japan that it intends to proceed with its planned series of nuclear tests in the Pacific this spring despite Japan's objections, authoritative sources said tonight.

The United States reply to Japan's request that the tests be called off was handed to the Japanese Embassy yesterday and forwarded to Tokyo, these sources said.

As in earlier exchanges, the United States was understood to have stated that nuclear weapons testing must be continued pending a disarmament agreement with the Soviet Union.

The United States position is that a ban on nuclear testing must be linked with agreement to suspend production of nuclear materials for weapons purposes.

The sources also said that the United States reply to Japan had expressed confidence that no danger would arise from the series of nuclear tests due to start in May next in the Eniwetok proving ground in the Pacific.

But the note had said that if such damage should occur, the US would take under consideration any presentation of claims.—United Press and Reuter.

Ghana News Agency

Accra, Mar. 6. The Prime Minister of Ghana, Dr Kwame Nkrumah, today opened new headquarters here for the Ghana News Agency as part of nationwide celebrations on the first anniversary of this country's independence.—Reuter.

"Too Busy"

Padang, Mar. 6. Deludun Simbolon, Foreign Minister of the Indonesian Revolutionary government, said today that he was "too busy" to go to Manila as its observer at the Santo conference. "I'm even too busy to leave Sumatra for the time being," Simbolon said.—United Press.

The US Is 'Deeply Involved' In Cairo Conspiracy

— Witness

Cairo, Mar. 6. A star State witness at the current Royalist conspiracy trial charged today that the US was deeply implicated in plots to overthrow the Egyptian and Syrian regimes. Issam Khalil, Egyptian intelligence officer, giving evidence for the second consecutive day, told the Court:

● Arrangements were made for Royalists involved in the Egyptian conspiracy to obtain sanctuary in the US Embassy in Cairo if the plot miscarried.

● The Saudi-Arabian plot to overthrow the Syrian regime, which President Nasser revealed yesterday, was arranged "with American co-operation."

Yesterday the same witness claimed in evidence that if the alleged plot to overthrow the Nasser government in Egypt and restore the government failed, the US Sixth Fleet was to help the conspirators escape from Alexandria.

BRITISH INVOLVED

Khalil said that, in addition to the US, British intelligence was also involved in the Egyptian Royalist plot.

"The British intelligence paid at least £10,000 towards the cost of organising the conspiracy," he said.

The Royalist plot, for which five defendants are being tried in absentia, was linked with the Syrian plot announced by President Nasser yesterday as the result of a direct question by the State Prosecutor, Ahmed Mounir.

The prosecutor asked witnesses whether he considered there was any direct connection between the two plots. He justified the question on the grounds that Egypt and Syria were now merged in the United Arab Republic.

Khalil charged that the two plots were in fact closely linked and both were financed by King Saud.

"King Saud earmarked a special fund for the purpose of overthrowing the Egyptian and Syrian regimes," Khalil told the Court.—United Press.

A Blockade?

Singapore, Mar. 7. The Straits Times said today the Indonesian Navy, now having heavy patrols in the waters facing Bengalis, a fishing port on the east coast of Central Sumatra, which the Times says is the rebel gateway to the outside world.—Reuter.

Killed Two While Drunk, Court Told

Glasgow, Mar. 6. A man was found guilty today of killing a father and his infant daughter by wrenching gas meter off a wall and letting the gas escape while breaking into a house.

William Finnigan, 23, was sent to prison for five years.

He was also found guilty of stealing a motor car and the gas meter containing seven shillings and 11 pence.

Defending counsel for Finnigan said the offence was undoubtedly done by a man who was drunk.

He added: "Nobody in full possession of his sober senses would pull out a gas meter and carry it away, along with a large pile."—China Mail Special.

THE FIRST JET-BOAT

Moscow, Mar. 6. Soviet scientists and engineers have constructed the first water-driven jet boat, the Tass news agency stated today.

Water is taken in through a hole at the bow of the boat and is expelled under high pressure through underwater tubes at the stern. Only two men are required for the operation of the boat.

The boat is intended for conveying floating timber, and has the additional advantage of a very shallow draught.—France-Press.



Revlon's **LOVE-PAT** COMPACT MAKE-UP WITH 'LANOLITE'

the one compact make-up that never cakes, never turns orange-y!

TEST LOVE-PAT YOURSELF

Smooth two streaks of cold cream on back of your hand to act the part of your own skin oils.

On one streak, puff your present powder or compact make-up. See how it turns orange-y!

On the other streak puff Revlon's 'Love-Pat'. No changing color! [W]

ON SALE AT LEADING STORES

Headache

Do not wait patiently for your suffering to end. Take 2 tablets of CASPIN dissolved in half a glass of water, and headache will soon vanish.

CASPIN



LOGAN GOORLAY—now in India

CHAPTER 4 OF HIS WORLD TOUR

Bootleggers, lush life, and an eerie touch

New Delhi.

A HOT, sticky night in Bombay. The taxi was driving me away from the centre of the city where the homeless sleep on hard, springless pavements, up to Milabar Hill, where the rich live in air-cooled, silk-draped mansions.

The taxi-driver told me that behind the high gloomy wall on the left were the Towers of Silence where the followers of the Parsee religion perform their funeral rites.

"When a Parsee dies," said my Hindu driver, "his body is put up on the tower and birds swoop down to eat the flesh. Sometimes a finger drops."

I cut him off before he could offer any more ghastly details. I was going to dinner in a Hindu not a Parsee home. But I had been told to expect a full traditional Indian dinner with all the trimmings.

My host was one of India's most powerful and richest industrialists, Mr. Ramnivas.

My host

I waited in the cool spaciousness of one of the reception rooms. Deep cushioned couches ran along each wall. A glass



case displayed a beautiful ivory chess set. The white walls were bare except for two mural panels of Indian dancers.

I would not have been surprised if a troop of temple dancers had glided in. Mr. Rula appeared and came across the chequered marble floor to greet me like a chessman advancing over the board.

He spoke English with the typical sing-song, high-pitched intonation of the Indians, which makes them sound like Welsh choristers.

He apologised about the difficulties of offering me a drink, even in his home. In Bombay strict prohibition applies.

As a resident he had a supply of whisky which the law says should only be granted on medical grounds and should only be drunk by himself.

As a foreign visitor I should only have drunk from my own bottle obtained on an official permit form. I had the permit which cost me five rupees and several hours of form-filling and queuing. But no bottle.

Fortunately Mr. Rula said: "I will apply the spirit, not the letter of the law." If he is prosecuted I am willing to swear before Pandit Nehru that I was drinking amber-coloured water.

Apart from prohibition, Mr. Rula indicated that life in the new independent India was becoming increasingly difficult. Particularly for a rich industrialist.



"I THINK YOU LEAVE IT AS TIP, BOSS . . ."

"My family started in cotton, but I am in chemicals, all kinds of textiles and insurance and banking. But the maximum personal income I am allowed to take after taxation is about \$25,000 per year."

His income

I said it must be impossible to run a mansion like his and live in his accustomed style on \$25,000 a year. The house has 20 bedrooms and a staff of 40 servants.

Mr. Rula smiled ruefully. "Yes, impossible. The house costs \$20,000 a year to run, but, of course, the business are family affairs. And so is the house. My two younger brothers are allowed the same income, and so is my old mother."

"Then I have indirect sources of income, dividends, and so on."

I accepted another glass of coloured water, and he led the way into the dining hall. I followed boldly. A large, solid silver salver called a thali was set before me holding more than a dozen Hindu delicacies. Mangoes, spiced potatoes, curries.

Small silver dishes surrounding the thali held the chutneys, sweet and sour, and the explosive vegetables, according to Hindu law.

In fingers

I was given a knife and fork. Mr. Rula ate in noisy Hindu fashion with his fingers. The meal was as different from what is served in the Indian restaurants of Soho as cod from caviar.

It was a novel experience for my taste buds. Sometimes they were shocked. Sometimes they were shocked.

Licking his fingers, Mr. Rula restarted his exposition of the rich man's plight in India. "My family has always given 25 per cent of all our profits to charity. Now we have to give much more to the Government."

"Personally I don't mind, if the money is helping to build the new India. I used to be a whole-hearted supporter of Nehru and his Government. Now I have some criticisms to make."

"I was one of the first to criticise the Finance Minister

who has just been forced to resign."

"But eventually industrialists like me may be practically forced out of existence. I may be the last of the line. My sons will certainly not be able to live like me and maintain this kind of establishment."

Mr. Rula helped himself to a handful of indigestion pills from a bottle brought by a servant. Betel nuts and pan leaves, which are chewed together, were served in silver caskets. A silver spittoon to catch the red betel juice was strategically placed.

Mr. Rula served more coloured water. It was thicker and sweeter, and it tasted like



"WHEN I CAME BACK THE CATS WERE FINISHING THE STEAK."

drumstick. He also insisted that I tried the betel nut before I left. That did it.

He was a charming, courteous host and I might have felt a pang of sympathy for him, as one of the best of the big Bombay millionaires.

Or even for the deformed pitiful beggars in the streets who haven't yet benefited from the redistribution of Indian wealth. But I felt only sorry for myself as I went off spitting red into the black night.

Prohibition

I offer a footnote to prohibition in Bombay. It was advocated by Gandhi and it was legalised by Morarji Desai, former Chief Minister of Bombay, to curb alcoholism among the masses who were spending all their pennies on a local hooch distilled from palm leaves.

But of course the bootleggers here are in operation (none imported from America as

yet), the illicit stills are working, and the masses are still not sober.

At midnight on the Bombay sea front I was accosted by a boy carrying a huge basket of coconuts. I told him I hated coconuts and coconut milk. He said: "No milk. In nuts good hooch. Tasty firewater."

AUTHOR Milton Brown has been explaining in a local newspaper why he has chosen to live in India, not Britain. "India is irresistible. But Britain? Overcrowded. Overgoverned. One has to stand in a long queue before one can even buy oneself a stamp."

Where do I read this? In a suffocatingly overcrowded Bombay post office standing in a long queue to buy myself a stamp.

Collection

I HAVE started a collection as I go round the world of the strange things I see. Not the celebrated wonders of the world like the Taj Mahal. But the sights that are unexpected, unusual, previously unrecorded, and unscheduled by tourist guides.

Like the dark-skinned Pakistan military band outside the barracks on the way to Karachi airport wearing turbans, kilts in what looked like authentic Scots kilts, and playing the bagpipes. A camel looked on aloofly and sceptically.

Wash cold

HAZARDS of hotel life. Mainly plumbing. In an hotel which calls itself the Regent Palace in Bagdad an Arab boy brought me morning tea and excited with 20 dinar notes, about \$20, which had been lying on the dressing-table.

Hauled back, he said blithely: "I think you leave it as tip, boss."

In the same hotel water in my bathroom came from the tap marked cold and cold water from the red tap clearly marked hot.

In the Metropole Hotel, Karachi, both bathroom taps were marked hot and cold, both spouted cold. In the Ambassador Hotel in Bombay hot water came from a temperamental geyser which spluttered and smoked above the bath.

The electrician I sent for said: "Wash cold. It is safer. Sometimes geyser blow up like bomb. Guests damaged." I washed cold.

I left my table in the deserted hotel dining room to answer the telephone. When I came back two scrawny members of the local battalion of the starving cat brigade were upon the table finishing my steak.

As I move on this series will be continued, I'm afraid.

PRICE INDEX. Listing essentials and non-essentials round the world. One LP record of the Broadway musical "My Fair Lady" in Bagdad: \$5. One bar of soap in Karachi: 5s. One bottle of whisky bought legally on permit in dry Bombay: \$5 5s. One bottle of beer: 10s. One packet of wine gums in Bombay: 3s. Also to be continued, I'm afraid.

Tankers of Wine

CONNOISSEURS were delighted at the superb quality of the wines which came out of Valentin Kora's cellars at Gelsenheim. His Niederelner Domthal '55 sent wine lovers into raptures.

His second-grade wines, which went out under the ordinary Rhein-Hesse label, were also something to be sipped, drunk and drained, according to the connoisseurs' code.

This week, 43-year-old vintner Kora astonished the connoisseurs. He was sentenced to two and a half years' hard labour by a Wiesbaden court. He had been found guilty of adulterating wines and using false labels.

Kora's story amazed wine-growers all over Germany. In evidence, he admitted that his "vintage" wines were not the product of Gelsenheim.

Kora told how he got around the expensive and laborious process of planting vines and tending them. He explained how he did away with the strenuous back-breaking task of picking and pressing. He described how he bought his grapejuice from abroad, mixed it with water, a little sugar, potash and glycerine, and carefully watched over the fermentation.

Kora sold three million bottles of his delectable product, including 100,000 bottles labelled "Champagne-type". It was delicious, experts told the court.

Kora did not use ordinary tap water to his "vintage" wines. He sent road tankers into the straggling Taunus hills near Frankfurt to collect water from the famous springs. His wines receive Class A certificates from German government analysts.

The Kora trial may lead to a change in German law, which says wine is a drink made from the fermentation from the juice of grapes.

After a bad harvest, vintners may legally use a little artificial acid to nature, but no one knows how far the law allows them to go.

Kora said he would grow mushrooms when he came out of gaol.

POCKET CARTOON

by OSBERT LANCASTER



"If that's going to be what I think it's going to be, the value of house property in this country will be coming down a dam' sight faster than the Vanguard goes up."

The AIR-BIKE

It's on the way...will Britain be first?

● A simple-to-run helicopter can be made for £250 says WILLIAM COURTENAY, O.B.E. He sees in this a new era of travel... and a big chance for Britain.

HOW often, after the limpness of a hot summer day's work, have you stood in your garden and sighed for an evening bathe? How often have you reflected grimly on the traffic-congested miles that separate you from the beach, and abandoned the whole idea?

Well soon there should be no sighing, no yearning.

All you will have to do is to go into the back garden, climb aboard your personal helicopter, and at 80 miles an hour cruise to the blue sea just over the top of the traffic jams.

This may sound the pursuit to match a millionaire's bank balance. It is not.

The type of flying motorcycle I have in mind would cost only about £250.

IN 20 MINUTES

It would take you only 20 minutes to learn to handle it with safety.

There is nothing of the Jules Verne in this idea. I have seen several of these types and experimental production in the U.S. at the National Aircraft Show (America's "Farnborough") at Ohio 1954 and at Oklahoma 1955.

Some use fuel stored in a bottle almost attached to the pilot's back, and operate through jets at the rotor tips. Others use 44-h.p. outboard motors, but all types have only one instrument—an airspeed indicator.

They fly at about 50 miles an hour.

They are still experimental but the U.S. Army has ordered a batch of 100 of one type to see what they can do.

In the British Army there is a definite interest in this class of aerial vehicle and top thinking is that it will have a role at battalion and company level as a unit vehicle and as an aerial reconnaissance platform for a commander to "see the other side of the hill."

This assures a future for the "flying motor-bike." In the

vehicle not only with military possibilities, but with an immense commercial future.

For here is a great chance to wipe that depressing word redundancy out of the aircraft industry's vocabulary, and use the skill of its workers to lay the foundations of a prosperity based on firm and sure demand.

We have sold 40,000,000 British cycles round the world in the last 60 years and there is no doubt we could sell 1,000,000 flying motorcycles a year once production begins to flow.

Italy has solved her balance of payments problem with her new small cars and motor-scooters. For Britain the flying motorcycle offers a comparable opportunity.

A TIE-UP

U.S. firms both in California and in New York State told me they hoped to market their little vehicles for £400 once an assembly line was laid down. This means we could sell the "hoppercycle" at £250 or less. The right approach might be a tie-up between one of the big cycle manufacturers in Britain—who could build the light engine and frame—and one of the aircraft firms now facing redundancy problems.

Such a combination would launch a new era of air travel in this land—a era which would bring joy to the millions who will never be able to afford airline fares, and who in any case get no pleasure from flying at 40,000ft. in a pressurized cabin.

British Forces, and in the Commonwealth and Empire Armies. But will they be British "hoppercycles" or American?

Much depends upon whether the British aircraft industry grasps the fact that this is a

But what a delight to take off from the back garden and fly at 250ft. to 500ft. over the rooftops to visit friends; or the golf course.

For the business man it would mean that "commuting" would be possible from a home far beyond the present dormitory suburbs.

FOLLOW ROADS

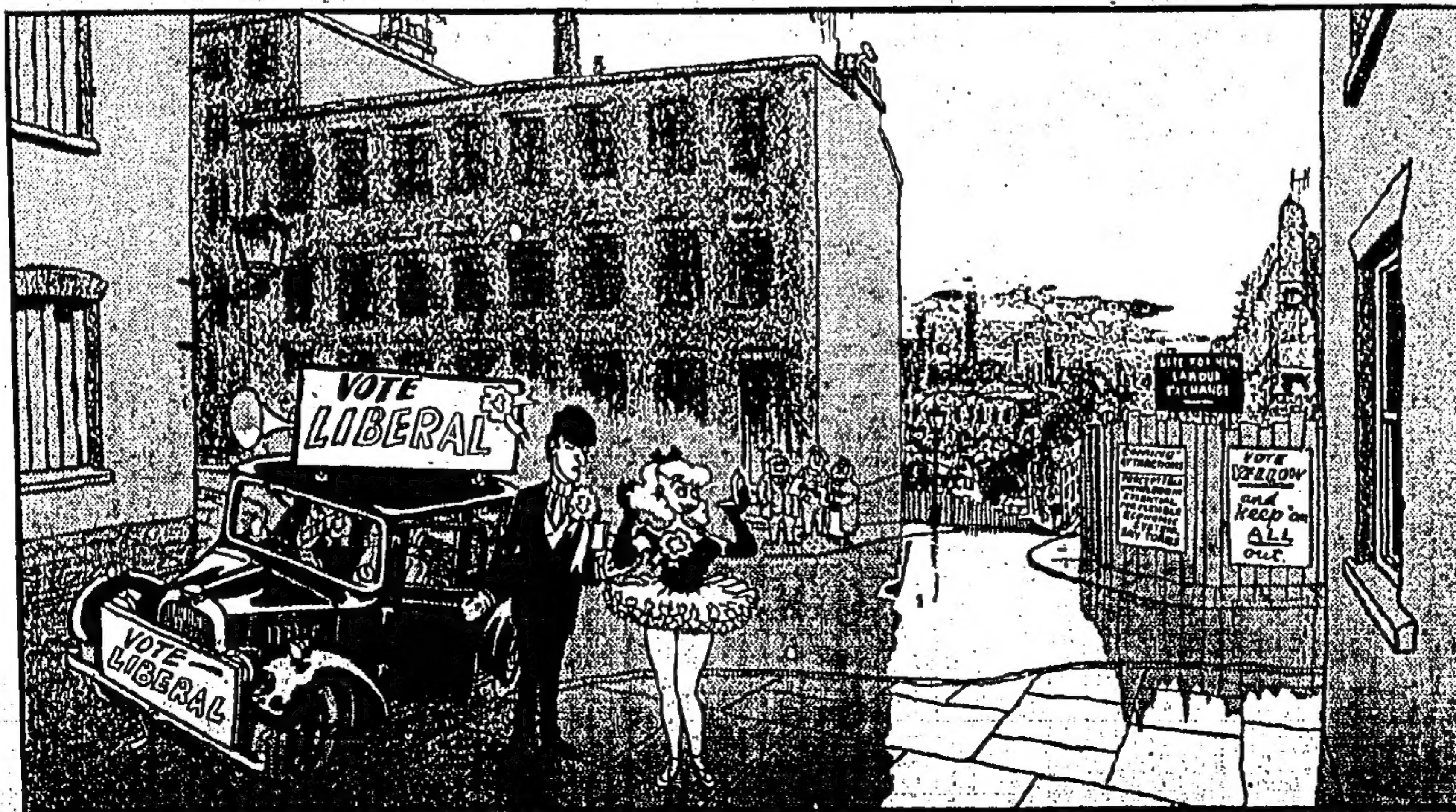
Speeds will rise doubtless to 80 miles an hour, with a range of two hours' flying. No navigation will be required; the "pilot" or driver will simply use a road map and follow the contours of the countryside—"flying by Bradshaw," one pilots use to say when following railway lines in the 'twenties and 'thirties.

Sporting flying will return. Fewer more than 700 of us owned light planes; today there are hardly a dozen private owners in Britain who can fly for the fun of it.

Indeed, the whole freedom of the heavens will be opened in a way beyond the capability of all the lordly, plushy airliners.

But all this depends on one thing. Have we the drive and imagination to tackle this idea and develop a British one-man flying bike?

Which among the sighing manufacturers will be first to sense and see all this—and launch this new venture? Who ever does get in first and provide the people with cheap and reliable transport of this kind will reap a rich reward. The vacuum in the market is crying out to be filled.



"Beauty alone is not enough, darling. Next time someone asks you who you're canvassing for say 'LIBERAL', not 'Don't know'."

BUYERS BECOME RELUCTANT

Market Turns Dull As Trade Slackens

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Stock Market turned dull after last week's mild boom as buyers were reluctant to extend their commitments.

cont, a sharp drop from 8.1
ago.—United Press.

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STERLING
SILVER TIP

Page 10

FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1958.

CAT AND MOUSE

The most fantastic spy story of the war



FIELD-MARSHAL ROMMEL took the hand of the bronzed, handsome young German and shook it warmly. "I wish you success on your mission," he said. "It is in your hands to bring victory for the Fuehrer here in Africa."

John Eppler, Germany's master spy in the Middle East, was starting out on his journey to Cairo. From there he would soon be gathering information that almost turned the tide against Britain in the vital struggle to hold on to Africa and the rich oil fields of Arabia.

For some of the most desperately important weeks of World War II, John Eppler moved and worked in our midst, directing and controlling a sinister network of espionage.

But was he, as the Germans believe, the most brilliant spy of all time? Or is there a more subtle twist to his fantastic story? The story of John Eppler has now been documented by Leonard Mosley. It is one of the most exciting spy dramas ever told.

CAT AND MOUSE
by Leonard Mosley
begins tomorrow in the WEEKEND MAIL

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Printed and published by Peter Plumley for and on behalf of South China Morning Post Limited at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria in the Colony of Hongkong.

STAR FERRY PROFITS UP

Carried 37.5 Million Passengers Last Year

Vessels of the Star Ferry Co., Ltd. made more than quarter of a million crossings; carried about 37.5 million passengers across the harbour; and earned for the company a profit of about \$1.25 million, as against \$1.19 million the year previously, in the 12 months ending December 31, 1957.

Mr H. D. M. Barlow, Chairman of the Board of Directors, who revealed these achievements at the annual meeting of the company held this morning at the boardroom of Jardine, Matheson and Co., Ltd., also said in his report that since the end of the war, the company spent nearly \$15 million on re-construction of war-damaged craft and building of new ferries.

The company declared a final dividend of \$5.50 per share in addition to the interim dividend of \$3.50 paid last August.

Chairman's Statement
The Chairman's statement said: "Although this is only our 50th yearly meeting, in a few weeks' time, on April 23 next, this company will have been established for exactly 50 years. No meetings could be held, of course, during the occupation of the Colony in the last war."

"In the period of our existence vast changes have taken place in this Colony and I think that we can claim to have played some part in the remarkable development that has occurred."

"Unfortunately most of our pre-war records were destroyed during the occupation period and it is not possible to give accurate statistics, but from the material which is available, certain facts can be put before you. It is estimated that, in these early days of our operations, the number of passengers carried in a month was under 40,000, about one-third of the number we now carry in one day. Kowloon was then largely virgin territory but development must have been steady as within ten years of the commencement of our service the traffic had doubled and in a further twenty years it was over ten times that carried in 1908."

"At the outset the company was building new craft and in 1901 two new vessels, 'double-enders' as they were then described, were built at a cost of \$35,000.00 each. Today our modern 'double-enders' cost over \$1,500,000.00 each."

"But such expansion as took place before the last war, although remarkable in itself, is in no way comparable with the growth since 1946. In the first 12 months of our operations after the re-occupation of the Colony, we carried 16,735,000 passengers, while last year the total was 37,593,000, an increase of 20,858,000 or 124%. The increase has been steady over the eleven years and while one cannot forecast future expansion, it was imperative that facilities should be provided in launches and in new terminals, which could cope with any further comparable increase in the passenger load."

"Since the war ended we have spent on re-construction of war-damaged craft or on new building a total of \$13,300,000.00 and this amount will be increased by a further \$1,000,000.00 when we plan to build another new vessel. The total of \$14,300,000.00 is in marked contrast to the value of the fleet taken over when the company was formed, the first balance sheet containing the figure of \$73,455.00."

Traffic
"During 1957 the traffic was interrupted in July for a matter of two hours and in September for some 12 hours due to typhoon conditions."

Again there was an increase over the previous year, the relative figures being: 1957 37,593,591 passengers carried; 1956 30,374,180; increase 1,219,401. "The increase was more marked from July onwards and in December we had a record month when the average daily load was 124,780 persons and reached on one day 147,450."

Our ferries made 130,397 crossings of the harbour during the year without mishap and I am sure that I express your feelings when I tender thanks to all members of our staff for the efficient manner in which they have carried out their duties during the year. During the peak rush periods, morning and evening, ferries were now departing every 2.6 minutes, and the traffic reaches a top load of 13,700 passengers per hour, 78% being carried to the Island in the morning and to Kowloon in the evening."

Shareholder's Speech
In seconding the adoption of the report and accounts Mr H. Owen-Hughes said: "Since the days of my childhood I have enjoyed picture books, especially those with pictures of motor cars and boats. The publication which contains our annual report and accounts not only gratifies my latent childish (Contd. on page 8, col. 9)

Piers
"The first half of the new Government pier in Kowloon came into operation on March 17, 1957, and the equivalent section of the Hongkong pier on December 15 last. From these new terminals the handling of the rush hour crowds has been greatly simplified and the traffic flow improved."

"Published with this statement are some photographs of the three Hongkong piers from which we have operated since our incorporation and they reflect the expansion of the passenger traffic to which I have already referred."

Fleet
"It is expected that the Kowloon pier will be completed by June next."

"I mentioned in my statement last year that orders had been placed for another two launches. These vessels have been completed and will replace two of the old steam driven ferries which are now over 30 years old. To complete the replacement programme of our fleet, which will then consist of eight modern diesel engine craft, the building of one more vessel, originally planned for 1956, has been postponed until 1959."

Staff Quarters
"In December last we completed, at a cost of \$127,848, the building of 50 three-roomed flats for our Chinese employees. These were occupied on 1st January and some 80 employees and 300 dependents have been housed. With housing at a premium in the Colony, I am glad that we have been able to provide this amenity for some of our more senior employees and I can assure members that it is greatly appreciated by the staff."

"Our earnings again showed an increase and the 'Working Account' receipts were up by \$134,000 compared with 1956."

But this sum was largely offset by the rise in fuel oil costs and adjustments in wages for our crews, with the result that the balance of the Working Account carried to Profit and Loss Account was only some \$24,000, higher than last year. I would mention that the price of fuel oil, which is a major item in our working expenses, has increased by over 20% since 1954."

"In the Profit and Loss Account, there is nothing that calls for comment by me. The results are satisfactory, the net profit showing an increase of \$92,336.13 compared with 1956. Your board recommend that the usual final dividend of \$5.50 per share be paid, making a total of \$9 for the year. They further recommend a transfer to Re-construction Reserve of \$400,000 and a provision of \$88,818 for Profits Tax, leaving a balance of \$454,516.78 to be carried forward to next year's account. All these proposals are incorporated in the accounts now presented and I trust that they meet with your approval."

"Turning to the balance sheet, you will see that Shareholders' Funds have increased by \$474,280.69."

"We had to meet exceptionally heavy Capital Expenditure during the year, on the construction of new vessels and the staff quarters, and this accounts for the Current Liability of \$2,250,000 which was borrowed to finance this development programme."

"The commitments noted on the balance sheet include the cost of the propulsion machinery for the new ferry which we intend to build early in 1959."

Conclusion
"There is only one other matter I should like to mention. The Star Ferry has been a landmark in Hongkong for many years. The fine new chime clock which has been installed in the new Hongkong pier was presented by a former chairman of this company, Mr John Kowloon, and I should like to tender on behalf of the company and our many patrons our thanks for this generous gift."

Shareholder's Speech
In seconding the adoption of the report and accounts Mr H. Owen-Hughes said: "Since the days of my childhood I have enjoyed picture books, especially those with pictures of motor cars and boats. The publication which contains our annual report and accounts not only gratifies my latent childish (Contd. on page 8, col. 9)

Piers
"The first half of the new Government pier in Kowloon came into operation on March 17, 1957, and the equivalent section of the Hongkong pier on December 15 last. From these new terminals the handling of the rush hour crowds has been greatly simplified and the traffic flow improved."

"Published with this statement are some photographs of the three Hongkong piers from which we have operated since our incorporation and they reflect the expansion of the passenger traffic to which I have already referred."

Fleet
"It is expected that the Kowloon pier will be completed by June next."

"I mentioned in my statement last year that orders had been placed for another two launches. These vessels have been completed and will replace two of the old steam driven ferries which are now over 30 years old. To complete the replacement programme of our fleet, which will then consist of eight modern diesel engine craft, the building of one more vessel, originally planned for 1956, has been postponed until 1959."

Staff Quarters
"In December last we completed, at a cost of \$127,848, the building of 50 three-roomed flats for our Chinese employees. These were occupied on 1st January and some 80 employees and 300 dependents have been housed. With housing at a premium in the Colony, I am glad that we have been able to provide this amenity for some of our more senior employees and I can assure members that it is greatly appreciated by the staff."

"Our earnings again showed an increase and the 'Working Account' receipts were up by \$134,000 compared with 1956."

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SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"Thanks to your auto accident, J.B., you're going to get the rest I've been ordering you to take for the last five years!"

ENJOYABLE RECITAL BY THE HONGKONG SINGERS

By R. A. BONES

After a month in which there has been less than average activity in our musical world, March has come in with a roar. Last night saw the third concert in a week given in aid of the Hongkong Musical Training Centre for the Blind; the repeat of this tonight in the Wah Yan College, Kowloon, will be the fourth.

It is probably for this reason that the concert last night given by the Hongkong Singers conducted by Dr L. T. Rido was not well attended. This was a pity for the Singers are the cause for which they were singing deserve the fullest support.

The standard of performance was high on the whole and, if I had not heard this choir on many previous occasions, I would have said that an exceedingly high standard was attained. However, I understand that they have been having their troubles with the present wave of colds and influenza causing absence at rehearsals and this showed in that the final polish of some of the items was not as high as we have come to expect from them.

MENDELSSOHN
The first half of the concert was taken up with a performance of the choral movement of Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise". In the opening chorus "All Men, All Things", the choir seemed to be straining and singing rather as individuals instead of as a team. The result was that the tone was not round and mellow and the music did not flow but rather was pushed out.

This was only a passing phase and by the time they had reached "Let All Men Praise The Lord" equilibrium had been restored and a well balanced, nicely blended performance was given.

The solo parts were sung by Hilda Carr (Soprano), Maureen Clark (Second Soprano) and Robert Wither (Bass). The first thing that struck me was how well these three voices blended; they all have a similar style and character in their singing and thereby produced a harmonious unity.

Mrs Carr and Mr Wither have powerful voices with plenty of good tone but rather strong vibrato which I found a trifle disconcerting. The dictation of both these singers and indeed of the choir as a whole was excellent which is only too rare an occurrence.

When singing together I thought that Mr Wither was a little too sympathetic and the balance could have been improved if he had not restrained his singing quite so much. Mrs Clark provided excellent support for Mrs Carr in the soprano duets and again the outstanding feature was the unity of these voices.

GEORGE DYSON
The "Three Songs of Courage" by George Dyson was musically the best item in the concert. This work is based on three poems by John Bunyan, John Maclelland, and A. E. Houseman. This work seemed to suit the choir well and they produced a full and effortless tone in their very best tradition.

The last item was a setting by George Dyson of a poem by William Dunbar and was entitled "In Honour of a City". The words are in praise of the City of London "thou art the flower of Cities all". Again in striving to produce a grand "grandioso" I thought the choir were giving a trifle too hard and the tone was not sufficiently relaxed, but otherwise this was a most worthwhile and interesting performance.

Throughout the piano continuo was played by Robert Bell, who achieved a most competent performance with a good balance between leading and accompanying. Once or twice when accompanying soloists, Mr Bell was slightly overpowering and could well have been a little more restrained. Taken all round though this was a very enjoyable recital with an interesting and varied programme. The second performance tonight should be even better and will be well worth going to.

MAN KNIFED HIS FRIEND IN THE 'HEAT OF ANGER'

—COURT TOLD

Chan Ming, 38-year-old unemployed, told a Jury trying him for alleged murder this morning that he knifed his friend "in the heat of anger" in the course of a fight.

Chan was testifying on his own behalf before Mr Justice J. R. Gregg at the Criminal Sessions.

He was accused of fatally stabbing Hui Hing-wing, a workshop foreman, on December 17, following a quarrel in a workshop yard at Smithfield, Kennedy Town. Hui died five days later from a chest wound.

Mr Richard Winter is defending Chan, instructed by Wilkinson and Grist. Mr Simon Li, Crown Counsel, is prosecuting, assisted by Det. Inspector J.W. Currie.

SAME VILLAGE
Chan gave evidence that he knew the deceased well. They were from the same Chiu Chow village. Before he came to Hongkong, Chan was still on friendly terms with the deceased following their arrival in the Colony.

On December 17, Chan continued, he went to Smithfield to see Hui about 5 or 6 p.m. He met Hui in the road and asked if he had any clothes to spare.

Hui replied that he had none, and that even if he had, the clothes would not fit him. The two then walked towards the tinshop accommodation for passengers—in the case of a taxi in white on a green surface and in the case of a public car in white on a red surface.

By paragraph (2) of regulation 1, the registration marks must be displayed on taxis and on public cars on plates of the same dimensions as those of present taxis and private cars which are registered at the date of coming into operation of these regulations, on plates of the former dimension for a period of one year from the date of coming into operation of regulations 4 and 5 a motor vehicle used solely on Lantau may be licensed for that purpose only on payment of one quarter of the normal licensing fee.

The opportunity has been taken by regulation 3 to provide that applications from decisions of the Commissioner of Police to the Governor in Council shall be by petition.

RETURNED
Chan said Hui appeared to be angry. He left the workshop and returned the following day at about 1 p.m.

He again met Hui in the road, about 30 paces from the workshop. The two walked together towards the workshop. He asked Hui why he had made the remark about rascals and bad characters would not dare to ask me for money."

FOLLOWED
Chan said he followed Hui in, saying "I don't believe you. I am going in to see if you will carry out your threat."

Hui cried out to his folks to beat him up, the accused went on. He struck Hui at random with his fists. Some of Hui's folks started to throw pieces of wood at him.

He and Hui then fought. Being the stronger of the two, Chan said, he managed to pin Hui's arms from behind. At he did so, Hui tried to pick up a knife from a large stone in front of him, but he wrested the knife away from Hui.

The struggle took place very quickly, the accused went on. As soon as he got hold of the knife, he stabbed Hui's arm.

INTENDED
"It was done in the heat of anger," he asserted. "After this, I stabbed him again, intending to hurt him only on the arm or hand."

Chan added: "At the time I was not quite myself. I could not think properly."

Accused said that when the deceased shouted out to his folks to stop him, he ran away. Hearing is proceeding.

Firm Dissolved
The name of Ralli Brothers (Far East) Ltd. has been struck off the register and the company dissolved, it was notified in the Government Gazette today.

Woman Injured
A 39-year-old woman, Lau Wah-long, living at an unnumbered hut in Fuk Chuei Street, was seriously injured when she was knocked down by a commercial van yesterday near her home in Tsukokui.

The victim is being treated in Kowloon Hospital.

Registration Licensing Of Vehicles Various Plates For Cars

The Governor in Council has made the Road Traffic (Registration and Licensing of Vehicles) (Amendment) Regulations, 1958, which shall come into force on April 1, it was announced in the Government Gazette today.

Regulations 2 and 6 impose the requirement that the registration marks shall be displayed on taxis and on public cars on plates of the same dimensions as those of present taxis and private cars which are registered at the date of coming into operation of these regulations, on plates of the former dimension for a period of one year from the date of coming into operation of regulations 4 and 5 a motor vehicle used solely on Lantau may be licensed for that purpose only on payment of one quarter of the normal licensing fee.

The opportunity has been taken by regulation 3 to provide that applications from decisions of the Commissioner of Police to the Governor in Council shall be by petition.

Government Appointments Gazetted

The following appointments, postings, transfers and promotions in the various Government Departments were announced in today's Government Gazette:

Medical
Dr R. E. Alvarez, pathologist, appointed a Specialist (Government Pathologist). The appointment is to take effect on April 1, 1958.

Police
Sub-Inspector Szeto Che-yun promoted to Assistant Superintendent of Police.

Legal
Mr Heenan, Senior Crown Counsel, ceased to act as Solicitor General on resumption of duty by Mr A. H. Hooton.

Defence Force
Mr Henry Chung Hung-chun and Mr R. Buttrill, D.F.C., as Flying Officers in the Hongkong Auxiliary Air Force.

Defence Force Reserve of Officers
Mr R. G. Colman, Captain Headquarters, has been posted to the Hongkong Defence Force Reserve of Officers.